

Martin Army Community Hospital (MACH)
Public Affairs Office
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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – 15 Oct 2014

Fort Benning, Ga – Martin Army Community Hospital announces 2014-2015 Influenza Schedule.

Flu activity in the United States and at Fort Benning is low now, making this the best time to get a flu vaccine to prevent catching the flu.

It is now recommended to that people 6 months and older receive annual influenza vaccination. In February, 2010, the Center for Disease Control's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) voted in favor of "universal" influenza vaccination in the United States to protect as many people as possible against the flu. There is one exception to this: CDC recommends that children aged 6 months through 8 years of age who have never received a seasonal flu vaccine get two doses of vaccine spaced at least 4 weeks apart.

- Two doses given at least 4 weeks apart are recommended for children aged 6 months through 8 years of age who are getting a flu vaccine for the first time. Children who only got 1 dose in their first year of vaccination should get 2 doses the following year.
- All children 6 months up through 8 years of age getting a flu vaccine for the first time need two doses, at least 4 weeks apart, the first year they are vaccinated in order to develop immune protection..

What viruses will this season's vaccine protect against? The flu vaccine is updated every year to combat the flu viruses that research indicates are most likely to cause illness during the upcoming season. The 2014-2015 flu vaccine is being made in the same way as seasonal vaccines have been made for decades.

MACH offers various Flu Clinics on Fort Benning this year:

14 Oct-McBride Elem School
1400-1900
16 Oct-Main Post Exchange
1400-1900
30 Oct-Main Post Exchange
1400-1900

Additionally: Beginning 14 October 2014, 0900 – 1140 and 1300 – 1630 (while supplies last) all Family Medical Home and Pediatric Medical Home Enrolled Patients (Ages 6 – 35 months and 4 years and older) can obtain their immunization at the MACH Pediatric Medical Home.

Family Medicine and Pediatrics will also offer immunizations to patients during regularly scheduled appointments.

More information can be obtained by calling the MACH Flu Hotline, 706-545-8039, the CARE Line, 706-544-2273, or visiting MACH web page at www.martin.amedd.army.mil